



# HIGH DESERT WARRIOR

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www.irwin.army.mil

January 27, 2011

Published in the interest of the National Training Center and Fort Irwin community

## Celebrate Black History

The Fort Irwin community: Soldiers, family members, and civilian employees are invited to attend African American/Black History Month celebration. Soldiers from 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment will sponsor the event at the Sandy Basin Community Center, Feb. 1, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Guest speaker is former Arkansas State Senator Irma Hunter-Brown. Fort Irwin Soldiers will perform and ethnic food samplings will be offered.

## Irwin Blood Drive

Fort Irwin community is invited to the post's Blood Drive at the Bloodmobile, which will be located at the Main Post Exchange parking lot, Feb. 9, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Be sure to drink plenty of fluids and bring photo ID with you. For more information, contact Chief Warrant Officer 2 Hess at 380-5421.

## CG Change Command

The Fort Irwin community is invited to the National Training Center and Fort Irwin Change of Command ceremony between Brig. Gen. Robert "Abe" Abrams and Brig. Gen. Terry Ferrell, at the Post Helipad, Feb. 7, 3:30 p.m.

## Vietnam Veterans Salute

The National Training Center and Fort Irwin invites all military veterans who served during the Vietnam War Era (1955-1975) to its 2nd Annual Vietnam Veterans Day Ceremony on March 30, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Highlights include Welcome Ceremony with lapel pins presentation, lunch with the commanding general and Soldiers, group photograph, veterans' benefits information table and military vehicle display. Family members of Vietnam veterans are encouraged to attend. RSVP by March 15 at email [http://www.irwin.army.mil/cmd\\_staff/USAG/Documents/Vietnam.pdf](http://www.irwin.army.mil/cmd_staff/USAG/Documents/Vietnam.pdf) or contact Mark Laury, Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization, and Security at 380-6372 or email him at [mark.laury@us.army.mil](mailto:mark.laury@us.army.mil).

## Soldiers' Spouses' Program

The 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment Chaplain's Office introduced new programs for Soldiers who have deployed and their spouses at Fort Irwin, Calif. The programs will feature open group discussions led by a chaplain. The group discussions will provide an open, safe and confidential environment for Soldiers and their spouses to discuss problems. The Warriors' Huddle, for Soldiers who have deployed, will be held Mondays at the Education Center, Room 26, from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. The Spouses' Warrior Huddle, for spouses of Soldiers who have deployed, will be held Tuesdays at the Family Life Center, Building 320, from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. For more information regarding the Warriors' Huddle or the Spouses' Warrior Huddle, please contact Sgt. Christina I. Lemburg, 11th ACR Chaplain Assistant, at 380-4913 or by email at [christina.parmeley@us.army.mil](mailto:christina.parmeley@us.army.mil).

## Army Chief of Staff visits NTC



CAROLINE KEYSER

Brig. Gen. Robert "Abe" Abrams, commanding general of the National Training Center and Fort Irwin, accompanies Gen. George W. Casey Jr., chief of staff of the Army, as Casey arrives at the NTC Jan. 22. See page 13 for story and another photo.

*Traffic, pedestrian safety to be enforcement*

## Post's priority safety issue is traffic

BY CHARLES MELTON  
Warrior Staff Writer

Perhaps it's whispers of the Intimidator in the High Desert air or simply the sight of 30 miles of wide open highway that lead the majority of motorists driving to and from Fort

Irwin and the National Training Center to be heavy on the gas pedal.

Whatever it is, Fort Irwin Directorate of Emergency Services director Lt. Col. Oscar Tyler has made it his mission to change that mindset.

"On other installations, most traffic, once they enter an installation, comes to almost

an abrupt stop or snail's pace throughout the confines of the installation," he said. "I don't see that at Fort Irwin, and one of my sole missions while I'm at Fort Irwin, being in the position I'm in, is to regulate that heavily and forcefully."

**See Traffic, page 3**

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## JAN./FEB. 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				27	28	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26

ROTATIONAL SOLDIER USE OF POST FACILITIES

■ HEAVY USE ■ MEDIUM USE ■ MINIMAL USE

We salute, honor



281

FORT IRWIN SOLDIERS  
CURRENTLY DEPLOYED

Source: Directorate of Human Resources  
National Training Center and Fort Irwin



# D6 Army Family Action Plan (AFAP) Update Employment and Family Support



**Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch**

As the Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management, I have an important responsibility to oversee the Army Family Action Plan (AFAP) process, which is a program that enables Soldiers, Civilians and Family members to communicate quality of life issues to Army leaders.

Information provided through this process allows leaders the opportunity to affect changes that will lead to a more satisfied and resilient Army community.

Every month subject matter experts from across the Army meet to analyze recommendations submitted through the AFAP process to determine if they are achievable. These recommendations will then be presented at the next annual General Officer Steering Committee in January 2011. I have promised to regularly communicate our progress throughout the process. This month we reviewed recommendations related to employment and family support.

Issue number 617 recommends providing greater visibility of qualified Wounded Warrior job applicants to Federal hiring officials. The Civilian Human Resource Agency (CHRA) has made much progress with this issue. One accomplishment is their partnership with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to integrate the use of their Veteran Resume Inventory (VetSuccess.gov) into Army recruitment business processes. Additionally, CHRA has developed—

- The Civilian Personnel On-Line (CPOL) Wounded Warrior webpage.
- The Wounded Warrior Referral Process.
- The Wounded Warrior and spouse web-based resume inventory.
- A briefing that explains how to direct-hire Wounded Warriors. This briefing is now included in

the mandatory New Supervisor's Training Course.

Department of Defense State Liaisons and the Army have also made progress on issue number 524, which recommends granting unemployment compensation to military spouses that leave their jobs when accompanying service members on a permanent change of station (PCS) move. To date, 38 states provide unemployment compensation while the District of Columbia and Maryland evaluate eligibility on a case-by-case basis. Ohio and Tennessee have active legislation in progress to provide unemployment compensation. Outreach efforts are being focused on the remaining States to solicit their support for these dedicated military spouses and their Families.

Issue number 556 is a recommendation to eliminate the financial inequities in the DoD Child Care Fee Policy due to a limited number of Total Family Income (TFI) categories. Work on this issue resulted in the addition of three new categories and an expanded fee range in each category. We are on track to achieve our school year 2012-2013 goal of reaching an Army-wide single fee in each TFI category, which will result in more consistency and predictability for Families as they move from post to post.

Issue number 639 recommends that Advanced Individual Training (AIT) Soldiers who require Exceptional Family Member (EFM) services and have received an overseas assignment remain at their current installation until notification of EFM service availability and command sponsorship is granted by the overseas travel approval authority.

As a result of this recommendation, a rapid revision to AR 608-75, which governs the Army Exceptional Family Member Program, is in the process of being published. The revision directs that all Soldiers with EFMs will remain at their current installation pending notification of EFM service availability and command sponsorship from the overseas command.

Although we have made progress with some issues, we still have work to do on others. This month we will continue to analyze the attainability of the following issues:

- Authorizing 100 percent of the death gratuity to any person designated as a beneficiary by a Department of the Army Civilian killed in a military contingency

operation (regardless of their relationship). Currently the law only recognizes spouses, children, parents or siblings as eligible survivors (issue number 634).

- Establishing a centralized Department of Defense leave donation bank for civilian employees (issue number 615).
- Aligning compensatory hours with standard overtime rates for Army Civilians (issue number 649).
- Standardizing and enforcing the Total Army Sponsorship Program (TASP) by providing trained and available sponsors equipped with the information and referral resources needed for Soldiers and Families during times of transition (issue number 609).
- Accounting for the unborn children of pre-existing pregnancies when calculating the transitional benefits for Family members of military personnel who were separated and discharged due to domestic abuse (issue number 625).
- Coordinating with U.S. Citizen and Immigration Service for approval of DoD-administered fingerprinting and physical examinations (issue number 515).
- Providing EFMP enrollment eligibility for Reserve Component Soldiers (issue number 650).
- Conducting a holistic review of Family Readiness Group fundraising in the Active and Reserve Components (issue number 652).

The Army is working the issues, but the Army Family Action Plan is your program. I encourage you to learn more about the AFAP process and follow the progress on issues that are currently being worked.

I invite you to visit the Army One-Source website at [www.myarmyonesource.com](http://www.myarmyonesource.com) and select the Family Programs and Services menu to activate the AFAP active issue search feature. Once there, you can search by keyword or issue number. You can also search by subject area, demographic group or geographical area to see what we are doing to improve the quality of life for Soldiers, Civilians and Families.

Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch  
Installation Management Command  
Commanding General

*(Lt. Gen. Lynch is also the Assistant Chief of Staff of Installation Management)*



## WHO WE ARE

**Brig. Gen. Robert B. Abrams**  
Commanding General  
**Command Sgt. Maj. Nathan Buckner**  
Post CSM  
**Col. Jim Chevallier**  
Garrison Commander  
**Command Sgt. Maj. Mark A. Harvey**  
Garrison CSM  
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NTC Public Affairs Director  
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## HIGH DESERT WARRIOR

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## SUBMISSIONS

Story and photos may be sent to the High Desert Warrior at least two weeks prior to the desired publication date. Items submitted to the High Desert Warrior are always subject to editing. Submissions should include subject's names, ranks and work affiliation (unit or organization) of everyone in the photograph. Group photos of four or more people don't require individual names. Submissions may be e-mailed to the editor at [chicpaul.becerra@us.army.mil](mailto:chicpaul.becerra@us.army.mil).

## NEWSPAPER AWARDS

**2nd Place, 2009 U.S. Army IMCOM-West**  
Newspaper Competition — Tabloid Category  
**Honorable Mention, 2008 Dept. of the Army**  
Maj. Gen. Keith L. Ware  
Newspaper Competition — Tabloid category  
**3rd Place, 2007 U.S. Army IMCOM-West**  
Newspaper Competition — Tabloid Category

## SEND US FEEDBACK

Send your questions, suggestions, or problems to:  
1. Your chain of command  
2. ICE (Interactive Customer Evaluation)  
3. CG's Hotline: 380-5463



*Introducing: Our new post chaplain*

# Chaplain Fleury brings healing touch to High Desert

STORY AND PHOTOS BY CHARLES MELTON

Warrior Staff Writer

National Training Center and Fort Irwin Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Joseph Fleury had dreams of healing others as a child, but in the physical rather than the spiritual sense.

However, all that changed when he was knocked out of bed at the tender age of 14 and answered the call to the priesthood a year later. The next 40 years have been marked by 30 moves around the globe as Chaplain Fleury is a healer of spirits and souls.

"While I always wanted to be a doctor, the Lord has called me to be a spiritual doctor, a healer of souls and spirits, ministry of reconciliation," he said.

After attending a religious retreat by Marist priests, Chaplain Fleury said, "I went to my mother and father, I said, 'I want to leave home and go to the seminary.'"

His father's immediate response was "Like hell. No son of mine is going to leave at 15 and go to the seminary," Chaplain Fleury recalled, adding that "My mother in her wisdom said, 'If it's God's will, it will be.'"

A month later, his father relented and gave his blessings and permission for him to leave for seminary, where Chaplain Fleury spent the next 18 years preparing for his ordination as a priest.

During that time, a Marist priest Chaplain Robert Brett was killed at Khe San, Vietnam, and Chaplain Fleury, then in minor seminary, was tasked to serve at his funeral in 1968 during the height of the Vietnam War.

"I was so touched by the experience of sending him to heaven that I said, 'Good Lord willing, I want to continue his work some day,'" he said. "That was '68, so 20 years later that dream came true."

In the summer of 1988, Chaplain Fleury was granted a release from the Marists to the military archbishop for endorsement to the Army.

During his 22 years of service to God and country, Chaplain Fleury has made 17 PCS moves, with his latest being from Hawaii to the National Training Center and Fort Irwin.

"At my farewell at Hawaii, I said, 'You know very often I don't get to see the benefits of the fruits of my work, but perhaps the Lord has called me in my life to plant seeds to be a planter rather than a reaper and I truly believe that,'" he said.

Chaplain Fleury said he loves the lifestyle, the culture, and the calling above all else: to serve and to minister both God and country.

"I really am blessed to experience the best of both worlds: to do my duty as an American citizen and also to serve God as



**Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Joseph Fleury is the new post chaplain at the National Training Center and Fort Irwin.**

a believer," he said. "The benefit is I've been able to plant seeds and touch people throughout the world, and I can say I have friends throughout the world, good friends, very close friends."

Much like his predecessor Chaplain (Col.) Dennis Newton, Chaplain Fleury said he felt God's hand in his move to Fort Irwin.

"I had a rough weekend just overwhelmed with work and ministry in Hawaii and said, 'God, I don't know how I'm going to survive this. I'm burning the candle at both ends,'" he said. "I went into work that Monday morning and I'll never forget it, there was an e-mail from Personnel, the Chief of Chaplains personnel director said, 'The Chief of Chaplains has decided Chaplain Fleury will be going to Fort Irwin.' Immediately I was at peace with it."

Unlike many of his previous moves, Chaplain Fleury was able to visit Chaplain Newton and the NTC /Fort Irwin religious support staff prior to assuming his duties as the installation's



command chaplain because two weeks after receiving his orders to Fort Irwin, Chaplain Fleury performed a wedding in San Diego.

"I got permission to do a couple of days up here just to meet with Chaplain Newton and some of his staff and just to get eyes on the ground," he said. "That was very helpful in the transition. It was great because I saw him in operation."

Now that Chaplain Fleury is on the ground in the High Desert, his goal is to continue growing and developing the existing programs and services already in place.

"Wherever the Soldiers are, we, as an institution, have got to do our best to go out and meet them on their ground, whether it's a contemporary service, whether it's through counseling, whether it's through communing with nature," Chaplain Fleury said. "Whatever their experience of the Divine, the Other is, we've got to be extremely flexible to do our best to meet their needs."

## Traffic, from page 1

It's not "ticket enforcement," but rather "traffic safety enforcement," he said, adding that tickets are just a by-product of that effort.

The primary area for excessive speed is Fort Irwin Road, which is the primary link between Fort Irwin and the surrounding areas, he said.

"Even though it doesn't fall within my jurisdiction I think the mindset is and it's kind of hard to counter that mindset once they enter the installation is that it's a free-for-all or no speed limit," he said.

Lt. Col. Tyler has reached out to the California Highway Patrol, which will be providing additional patrols along Fort Irwin Road along with aerial enforcement,

meaning planes will spot speeders and patrol cars on the ground will issue citations.

"That's just the first step in trying to change the mindset of those people entering this installation," he said.

Crosswalks are another area of emphasis as heavy pedestrian traffic exists on the installation during the morning and evening hours, he said.

"We're going back and looking to make sure our crosswalks are standardized No. 1, meaning you'll see the same thing at one crosswalk that you'll see at all the others," he said.

Based upon the results of recent traffic studies conducted jointly with the Directorate of Public Works, changes will be made

in speed zones, but Lt. Col. Tyler said the community will receive ample notice before those adjustments are implemented.

"Once we implement that we try to do it early out, at least two or three weeks out, so you're well aware of that and we're not changing the speed zones overnight," he said. "We try to give the community fair notice and advanced warning so they can be prepared for that."

Additional traffic patrols handling traffic and pedestrian safety issues are being added on the installation as well, he said, noting that those patrols will also be cracking down on cell phone use while driving on the installation.

"It's easy to get 10 traffic citations a day. That's the preponderance of it," he said.

"That's why I'm looking to beef up that section of DES."

In housing areas, safety is a two-edged sword as there are drivers who are not paying attention and kids with or without parents who aren't paying attention as well, he said.

To help in that area, Lt. Col. Tyler said the community will see more bike and walking patrols as the warmer weather comes to the High Desert.

When asked for his best advice in improving pedestrian and traffic safety, Lt. Col. Tyler said, "It goes back to the basics. No. 1 — the drivers always have to be aware; No. 2 — pedestrians, when you walk across the crosswalk, you have to look both ways."



## Crime Watch

Information provided by  
Provost Marshal Office

**Noise complaint.** Location: Desert Winds housing. Police investigated the report of loud and noisy juveniles. Juveniles were gone prior to police arrival.

**Identity theft.** Location: Off post. Victim reported that person(s) unknown had accessed the victim's bank account and stole a specific amount of money.

**Assistance rendered.** Location: Fort Irwin Road patrol. Police investigated the report of a female walking on Fort Irwin road. Subject was found and related that she lives near the Fort Irwin border and that she was looking for her lost dog.

**Larceny of private property (motorcycle, on post).** Location: Bldg. #####. Victim reported that person(s) unknown stole the victim's motorcycle. Report was taken.

**Larceny of government property.** Location: Bldg. #### (parking lot). Complainant reported that person(s) unknown stole a g.e.m. cart from the parking lot of the above location. Report was taken.

**Larceny of private property.** Location: Fort Irwin Post Exchange. Post Exchange security reported that two shoplifters were in custody at the Main Post Exchange. Report was taken and arrestees were processed and released.

**Incident (possession of drug paraphernalia).** Location: Fort Irwin Main Gate. During a random anti-terrorist measure, police inspected a vehicle and discovered a marijuana smoking pipe and marijuana in a vehicle that was entering the gate. The driver was cited.

**Disturbance.** Location: Coyote Springs housing. Police investigated the report of a disturbance. There was no evidence of a crime.

## News Briefs

### Community Information Hotline

In case of emergency or road closures, call the Community Information Hotline at 380-8300. The Community Information Hotline has facility hours, phone numbers, and general community event info. Press 4 to listen for upcoming events, or listen online at <http://bit.ly/eY6IBI> and be patient as it takes about 30 seconds to load.

### DUI Free Zone

The Fort Irwin Garrison Safety Office reminds everyone to be safe when consuming alcoholic beverages and plan ahead. Fort Irwin and the National Training Center is a DUI Free Zone and everyone is encouraged to do their part to prevent drunk driving.

### Unit PT Areas

Reminder that the housing area is off-limits for unit physical training, this includes all courts (basketball and tennis) and large grassy areas such as the field at the intersection of Barstow Road and Normandy Drive and Cracker Jack Flats. The courts and fields are for residential use only.

### In-Processing Relocation

Military Personnel and Finance In-processing Sections have relocated to Bldg. 312, co-located with the AG Replacement. All other Military Personnel Functions remain in Bldg. 561. DEERS and ID Cards section remains in its current location — Bldg. 563.

### Operation Battle Blackout

Operation Battle Blackout-Fort Irwin, through its partnership with its electricity provider (Southern California Edison), is calling everyone to voluntarily reduce its peak electricity usage during the critical period of 12 noon to 8 p.m. to support and aid in averting a possible energy emergency. Do your part: conserve energy by cutting down on lighting, electrical, and power usage in your work area or in your home. Encourage your fellow Soldiers, co-workers, and family members to conserve energy every day.

### Dental Clinic Open

Dental Clinic 1 (DC1), located in Bldg. 478, 3rd and G Street, is currently open for orthodontic and pediatric care. The officer-in-charge/orthodontist is Maj. Kevyn Wetzel, who handles active duty and very limited family members while the pediatric dentist is Maj. Adam Bushell, who handles children, ages birth-eight-years-of-age. For more information, contact Maj. Kevyn Wetzel, 380-3284.

### Radio Broadcast Streaming

Public Affairs Office is streaming radio broadcasts on KNTC 88.3FM. The link can be accessed at the Fort Irwin home Web page. Listeners can click on the KNTC logo, located at the top right of the home page, which will open the media player and play the broadcast. If anyone has questions about the stream, call 380-3450.



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# Worship Services/Chapel Activities

## Recurring Worship Services Center Chapel

### Friday

12 noon — Islamic Prayer Service (Bldg 317)

### Sunday

9 a.m. — Catholic Mass (Rosary held before Mass)  
(Sanctuary)

9:30 a.m. — Protestant Sunday school

11 a.m. — Chapel Next, Contemporary Worship Service  
(Sanctuary)

11 a.m. — Protestant Traditional Service (Activity Room,  
Bldg. 315)

2:15 p.m. — Latter Day Saints Religious Education  
(Bldg. 315)

3:15 p.m. — Latter Day Saints — Priesthood & Relief  
Society (Bldg. 317)

### Thursday 1st & 4th

6 p.m. — Gospel Choir

7 p.m. — Prayer Men of Integrity (Gospel)

### Saturday

8 a.m. — Women of excellence 2nd Saturday (Gospel)

8 a.m. — Ministerial Leadership Training  
3rd Sunday (Gospel)

## Center Chapel Recurring Weekday Programs & Services

Daily Catholic Mass — Mon., Tues., Thur., Fri. (11:45 a.m.)

CWOC — Catholic Women of Chapel, Thur. (9 a.m.)

PYOC — Protestant Youth, Middle School Mon.  
(6-7:30 p.m.)

PYOC — Protestant Youth High School Mon. (7-9 p.m.)

PWOC — Protestant Women of Chapel Tues. (9 a.m.)  
and (6 p.m.)

AWANA — Wed. (4 p.m.)

MOPS — Mothers of Preschoolers 2nd & 4th Wed. (9 a.m.)

LifeTeen & EDGE — Catholic High School Students  
Wed. (6:30-8 p.m.)

Jewish Services: Please call Center Chapel at 380-3562

Earth Based Services — Tues (4-8 p.m.) Bldg. 317

Operation Helping Hands Food Pantry: Monday-Thursday:

8 a.m.-3:30 p.m.; Friday: 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m. (Closed on Holidays)

## A Better Marriage

Join the post community at the Post Chapel Family Life Center as they hold a video series "Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage." The Chaplain Family Life Center, Bldg. 320, is located behind the Center Chapel, today, from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Call 380-4664.

## Recurring Worship Services Blackhorse Chapel

### Sunday

9 a.m. — Protestant Liturgical Service

11 a.m. — Gospel Service

1 p.m. — Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints  
Worship Service

### Wednesday

7 p.m.— Bible study (Gospel)

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# Community Happenings

## Ski Big Bear

Outdoor Recreation will host a Big Bear ski and snowboard trip on Feb. 3. The trip leaves at 5:30 a.m. from Bldg. 976 and returns by 7 p.m. Discount gear rental is available at Outdoor Recreation. For more information, call 380-4327.

## 5K Run/Walk

There will be a 5K Run/Walk on Feb. 12, with run kickoff is at 8 a.m., at the Coyote Activity Center. Call for more information 380-3457.

## Go Mountain High

Leisure Travel Services will offer transportation to Mountain High's North Pole Tubing Park on Saturday/Jan. 29. Call 380-4767 for more information.

## Irwin Job Fair

Army Community Service will host a job fair at Reggie's, Feb. 9, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. This job fair is FREE and open to the public. Bring copies of your resume and dress professionally. For more information contact Silvia Moreno at 380-5165.

## His Love Letter

Protestant Women of the Chapel will present "His Love Letter" with Guest Speaker Lindsay Hill, author of "When there's no one else but God" at the Main Chapel, Feb. 8, at 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. There will be food, free childcare, and new friendships. For more information, contact pwoc.ftirwin@gmail.com

## Sport Coaches Needed

The Child Youth and School Services are short of coaches for upcoming sports. Coaches have free sports enrollment for their children. If interested, stop by Bldg. 1300, Meuse Argonne Street between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday to Friday.

## Go For The Gold

Fort Irwin Winter Child, Youth, and School Services' Olympics is here! Showcase your abilities on Saturday/Jan. 29, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., and participate in CYSS' Winter Olympics at the Fitness Connection. Registration can be completed at Parent Central (Bldg.1323); MST (Bldg. 1313); SAC (Bldg. 1315); and the YS Office (Bldg. 1300). Events will include skating, hockey, checkers, bobsled, Wii, and a biathalon. The CYSS Olympics is for anyone, ages of 8 through 18, so let the games begin! For more information, call 380-2257.

## KNTC Headliners

88.3FM

Mon., 7:30-9 a.m.: Sue Jones — "Monday Morning Express"

Mon., 12-1 p.m.: "Ray and Jay's Sports Hour"

Tue., 7:30-9 a.m.: Jackie Hoggins — "Community Movers and Shakers"

Tue., 12-1 p.m.: Caroline's "Alternative Rock" Hour

Wed., 7:30-9 a.m.: Gus — "Cruiz'n with Gus and Newsmakers"

Wed., 12-1 p.m.: 1st Lt. Rob Mark — "11ACR Hour"

Thu., 7:30-9 a.m.: Jason Miller — "Garrison Community Updates"

Fri., 7:30-9 a.m.: John Wagstaffe — PAO Director

### Today's Music with Lexi

Mon., 11 a.m.-noon Thu., 11 a.m.-noon

Tue., 2-3 p.m. Fri., 11 a.m.-noon

Wed., 11 a.m.-noon

## Super Bowl Party

Watch the Super Bowl at Shock Wave on Feb. 6 and enjoy a pre-game party, door prizes, and give-aways. For more information, call 380-3084.

## Ultimate Fighting Championship

Shock Wave is showing UFC 126 on the big screen HD projectors, Feb. 6. Cover charge is \$10 and the show starts at 7 p.m. For more information, call 380-8646.

## Visit Quilting Exhibit

Leisure Travel Services is offering a trip to the Bowers Museum and its quilting exhibit, Feb. 19. The sign-up deadline is today/Jan. 27. For details, call 380-4767.

## At the Movies

### Thursday, Jan. 27

7 p.m. Closed

### Friday, Jan. 28

7 p.m. Yogi Bear (PG)

7 p.m. The Tourist (PG-13)

9:30 p.m. Little Fockers (PG-13)

9:30 p.m. Tron: Legacy (PG)

### Saturday, Jan. 29

7 p.m. Yogi Bear (PG)

7 p.m. The Tourist (PG-13)

9:30 p.m. Little Fockers (PG-13)

9:30 p.m. Tron: Legacy (PG)

### Sunday, Jan. 30

4 p.m. Yogi Bear (PG)

7 p.m. Tron: Legacy (PG)

7 p.m. Standing Ovation (PG)

### Monday, Jan. 31

7 p.m. The Tourist (PG-13)

7 p.m. Little Fockers (PG-13)

### Tuesday, Feb. 1

7 p.m. Closed

### Wednesday, Feb. 2

7 p.m. Closed

*This schedule is subject to change at the last minute to accommodate changes in movies and free showings. ID cards are required from all personnel not in uniform when purchasing movie tickets. For more information and movie updates, call 380-3490.*

## Teen Workshops Offered

The HIRED! Program will be offering the following workshops for all high school teens registered with CYSS at the Middle School Teen & Center (1313):

**Feb. 9, 2-3:30 p.m.** — Resumes/Cover Letters (parents must sign an internet permission slip ahead of time, available at MST)

**Feb. 23, 2-3:30 p.m.** — Mock Interviews

**Mar. 9, 2-3 p.m.** — Career Exploration (parents must sign an internet permission slip ahead of time, available at MST)

**Mar. 23, 2-3 p.m.** — College Information (parents must sign an internet permission slip ahead of time, available at MST)

For more information, contact Meagan Wegner, Work Force Preparation specialist, Child, Youth, and School Services, at 380-8412.

## Family Movie Night

The Villages at Fort Irwin will have a Family Movie Night in the Sandy Basin Community Center for the residents, Sunday/Jan. 30, 6-8 p.m. Bring your family and friends and watch the "Despicable Me." Bring your blankets and pillows. Popcorn and drinks will be provided. Please RSVP to Cynthia Brooks at (888) 419-6499, ext. 3710. Children under the age of 12 will require parent supervision.

## PWOC Women's Lock-In

Protestant Women of the Chapel will hold a Women's Lock-in at the Fort Irwin Main Chapel, Feb. 2 (7 p.m.) to Feb. 3 (8:45 a.m.) Come and have a fun time with games, food, worship, and the Word of God. This is open to all women and young women (teenagers) who want to get closer to God. Bring your pajamas, blankets, and pillow.

## GSAB FRG Events

Following are upcoming General Support Aviation Battalion, Family Readiness Group events:

## AAD, GSAB

Air Ambulance Detachment (AAD) FRG meeting has not been scheduled. If you should have any questions, contact Juli Cummings at (254) 630-2596 or email: aadfrg@gmail.com.

If you are interested or should have any questions, contact Mrs. Robinson at 380-7781 or email: avcofrg@gmail.com.

## Catholic Women of the Chapel

Attention all women: single, married, military or civilian. CWOC hosts a Book/Bible study on Thursday mornings, 10:30 a.m., in the Large Activity Room at The Center Chapel, located at the corner of 1st St. and Barstow Rd. For more information contact Alyse O'Steen at alo1129@gmail.com. Free on-site childcare provided: homeschoolers welcome; kids welcome.

## Farewell Connie Abrams

The Fort Irwin Military and Civilian Spouses' Club invites the community to bid farewell to Connie Abrams, spouse of NTC commanding general Brig. Gen. Robert Abrams, at a fun, pep rally-themed reception, Feb. 3, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., at Reggie's. Cost is \$12 at the door, and heavy hors d'oeuvres will be served. Dress attire is business casual, and you're invited to wear blue and white to honor Mrs. Abram's favorite team, the University of Kentucky Wildcats. RSVP today by contacting Keily Carlson at Fort IrwinRSVP@gmail.com by Sunday/Jan. 30. To reserve childcare, contact Danielle Phillips at childcare@mcsctfirwn.org by today/Jan. 27. For more information, call MCSC President Michelle Garnica at (912) 856-4664.

## Free NASCAR Tickets

Service members and their families are invited to register immediately for free tickets to NASCAR racing at Las Vegas Motor Speedway on March 6. The first 1,000 registrants will receive their free tickets between March 2 and 4. To register, go to <http://208.73.50.218/fmi/iwp/cgi?-db=WHT%20Events&-loadframes>.

## School Events

### Tiefert View Intermediate School

Jan. 31: Lunch with the Principal

### Silver Valley High School

Jan. 28: Girls Soccer Home vs. Mammoth, 3 p.m.

Boys Soccer Home vs. Mammoth, 5 p.m.

Jan. 29: Girls Soccer Home vs. Mammoth, 10 a.m.

Boys Soccer Home vs. Mammoth, 12 p.m.

Feb. 1: Girls Soccer Away vs. Vasquez, 3 p.m.

Boys Soccer Away vs. Vasquez, 5 p.m.

Boys Basketball JV Away vs. Boron, 4:30 p.m.

Girls Basketball Varsity Away vs. Boron, 6 p.m.

Boys Basketball Varsity Away vs. Boron, 7:30 p.m.

Feb. 1 and 2: CAHSEE (CA High School Exit Exam), Grades 11 & 12

## Youth and School Activities

### Middle School Activities

Thursday: Cooking Club: Crescent Dogs

Friday: "Bursting" Stereotypes

Monday: Freelance Writing, Reality Ride

Tuesday: African Mask, Newsletter Club

Wednesday: Ultimate Journey, Smart Girls, 4H

### Teen Activities

Friday: Cooking Club: Chex Party Mix

Saturday: Doggie Dayz

### Hours of Operation:

Middle School: M-F 3:15 until 6 p.m.

Teen Center:

Friday: 6-11 p.m.

Saturday: 3:30-11 p.m.

Sundays and Holidays: Closed

More information: Kristin Morgan at 380-3732.

Send Community Happenings briefs at least two weeks in advance of event to the editor, [chicpaul.becerra@us.army.mil](mailto:chicpaul.becerra@us.army.mil)





# Fort Irwin Middle School Student of the Month (January 2011)

## Casey Fernandez Grade 7

Casey excels in her schoolwork and sets goals for herself to improve her studies. Casey is very helpful and generous to those around her, and she is able to influence others positively. Casey volunteers to explain concepts when other students need help. Casey also participates in school activities and athletics.



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# Army Emergency Relief Campaign

*Let's 'takes care of our own' in 2011*

**BY BOB LUCAS**

Army Community Service  
Army Emergency Relief Officer

The AER campaign for 2011 will kick off on March 1 and end on May 15. The Army takes pride in "taking care of our own" through this program.

You will soon be able to seek out your organizational AER coordinator and fill out a donation application. Who knows ... maybe one day, you or someone close to you, ... or a Soldier in need might need a helping hand. We will be there for you and them.

The Army Emergency Relief was established in 1942 by the secretary of war and for over 67 years, AER has helped over three million Soldiers and their families overcome financial emergencies. AER has always been where Soldiers are stationed when they need help. While active duty Soldiers receive the bulk of our assistance, we continually help retired Soldiers and widows/widowers. We also have a robust education scholarship program

that provides financial support for both dependent children and spouses.

In 2010, Fort Irwin issued nearly 1,000 checks to Soldiers and Soldier families at this installation and in the surrounding area. The total outlay of money for both loans and grant was in excess of \$998,000.

Money was given out on a multitude of AER categories such as food, repair of vehicles, past due payment of bills, non-receipt of pay or advance leave, emergency dental and medical expenses, utilities, travel expenses, emergency leave requirements, funeral expenses, loss of funds, and other areas that help our Soldiers and their families.

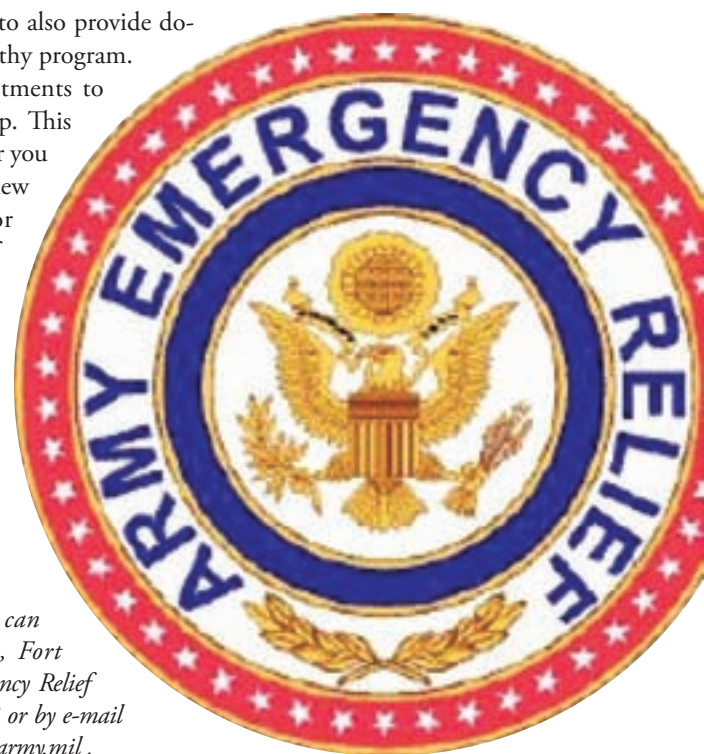
We ask that you give generously to this campaign, since it serves only active duty and retired soldiers and families of the army.

This program allows for loans or grants that lead directly to a sense of accomplishment for the soldier, which in turn leads to a clear mind and a soldier who is mission oriented again. Many of our civil service personnel are retired soldiers and are also eligible for AER assistance. They should look

within themselves to also provide donations to this worthy program.

All current allotments to AER will soon stop. This campaign allows for you to continue or renew your allotment for the survivability of the AER program. AER only exists because of donations. AER does not receive dollars from the Army or Department of Defense ... only from Soldiers.

*Editor's note: You can contact Bob Lucas, Fort Irwin Army Emergency Relief Officer at 380-3513 or by e-mail at robert.c.lucas@us.army.mil.*



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WW II jeep provides ...

# Rolling piece of American history

STORY AND PHOTOS BY CHARLES MELTON

Warrior Staff Writer

As the National Training Center and Fort Irwin G-3 Chief of Operations, Lt. Col. Stephen Thrasher is always on the move, but in his spare time, he keeps a piece of American history rolling down the road in his World War II jeep, a 1942 Ford GPW.

"It's essential because the material culture elicits the story," Thrasher said. "It will get vets to tell their story if they see it. It gives you an opportunity to get kids interested in that, so you can tell them a little bit about it if you talk about the war and what went on."

The jeep provides the opportunity to compare and contrast how things were during World War II with how they are now during the war on terror, he said.

"During World War II, there were scrap drives and everyone had to grow a Victory Garden, and there was food rationing, shoe rationing and all that kind of thing," he said. "People either don't know or don't stop to think how it is now and how it was then when you're talking total mobilization of the country compared to the Army and the Marine Corps being mobilized."

Over the course of the past 15 years, Thrasher's jeep has made appearances in parades in Savannah, Ga., St. Patrick's Day, and Veterans Day among other public showings as Thrasher did permanent change of stations from Fort Hood, Texas, where he purchased the jeep, to Fort Sill, Okla. and Fort Stewart, Ga., with a tour in Korea in between.

The decision to purchase the jeep took about six months after Thrasher attended an air show in Waco, Texas and met a gentleman who was

displaying two vintage military vehicles and about three cots worth of vintage World War II TA-50.

"There was no clue in my mind that private individuals could own vintage WWII vehicles," Thrasher recalled.

When his friend showed him two jeeps he had available for sale, Thrasher said he lucked into purchasing the Ford instead of the more popular Willys.

"I really just kind of bumbled into it," he said. "I bought mine because it's early enough that it's got the Ford script on the back and it has the original data plates on it with the VIN and the date of delivery."

When the United States entered World War II, three companies: Bantam, Ford, and Willys vied for the jeep contract with Bantam producing a vehicle closest to the required specifications in 45 days.

However, due to Bantam's inability to meet the production requirements, Ford and Willys ended up making the jeeps, which were a combination of the best of all three submissions. During World War II, Ford made 281,448 jeeps, Willys made 362,841 jeeps and Bantam made 2,675.

The distinctions between the Ford and Willys World War II jeeps are insignificant as about 90 to 95 percent of the parts are interchangeable, Thrasher said.

At the time he purchased the jeep, Thrasher admitted his mechanical knowledge was limited to changing oil and not much more, but his friend provided him a workshop and guided him through the restoration process.

When he purchased the jeep, it was missing its radiator, gas tank and carburetor and had to be totally stripped down to the frame and rebuilt.

"It took two-and-a-half years to get it back on the road," he said. "I had to contract out most of the reconstruction because I was getting close to PCSing from Fort Hood."

After returning from his tour in Korea, Thrasher added a personal touch to his jeep as the bumper now carries the identification of his unit in Korea, which served proudly during

World War II as part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division.

When asked about his future plans for vehicle restoration, Thrasher admitted he's been bitten by the restoration bug.

"I'm in the midst of restoring a 1941 Dodge pick-up, which I'm right back in the same boat of paying someone to put it back together," he said.



National Training Center and Fort Irwin G-3 Chief of Operations Lt. Col. Stephen Thrasher stands beside his World War II jeep, a 1942 Ford GPW.



Jacinia Whitfield

BY CAROLINE KEYSER

Warrior Staff Writer

When Jacinia Whitfield sings, she doesn't worry about fitting in with other people's expectations of her.

"I always say, 'Stick with what you've been doing,'" she said. "Don't change because someone else wants you to."

It may not be the most common philosophy for an aspiring young R&B singer, but it's one that has taken Whitfield far. The daughter of Master Sgt. Antonio and Tamara Whitfield, 18-year-old Whitfield's lifelong love of singing has recently reached new heights. In September, she won Fort Irwin's Operation Rising Star singing competition and advanced to the Army-wide competition at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, in November.

Several months before the Fort Irwin competition, Whitfield won a school talent competition at Silver Valley High School, where she had been a senior, and she was eager to test her singing skills in front of a wider audience.

That didn't mean she wasn't nervous, though.

"I was terrified when the competition came," Whitfield said. "There were other singers there who were really good, and I was the only dependent and the youngest one. I thought they would pick someone older and more mature."

They didn't. After a soulful rendition of Luther Vandross' "Dance with My Father," which Whitfield chose in honor of her recently deceased grandmother, the judges declared her the winner.

"When they called my name, I could barely move," she said. "I was so happy."

Whitfield was again surprised when she found out she would advance to the Army-wide competition. She decided to make the cross-country flight and participate in Operation Rising Star alone — a bold move for a young woman who had never spent much time away from her family and who had never flown alone.

"My family has always gone to everything I've done," Whitfield said. "But I'm glad I decided to go by myself because I learned a lot about how it's really gonna be when I have my own apartment. It opened my eyes."

Though Whitfield was cut from Operation Rising Star when the field narrowed from 12 competitors to six, she said she thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Now, she's setting her sights on the future. After Antonio retires from the military this year, the Whitfield family is planning to move to Virginia, where Jacinia wants to attend Old Dominion University. But she doesn't plan to major in music. Whitfield acknowledges that singing and performing for a living can be tough, and she's aiming for a degree in psychology.

## Fort Irwin





National Training Center and Fort Irwin G-3 Chief of Operations Lt. Col. Stephen Thrasher sits behind the wheel of his World War II jeep, a 1942 Ford GPW.

## win singer's star is rising

"Music is what I really want to do, but I want to have a back-up plan," she said. "I like listening to people and trying to make them feel better."

Whitfield doesn't intend to stop singing during college, though. She's been composing and recording R&B and gospel songs for several years, and plans to continue while she's in school.

Whitfield's love of the two genres spans nearly her whole life. She sings soprano with Fort Irwin's gospel choir, and has been singing in church choirs for as long as she can remember.

"With gospel, I just love the words," she said. "And with R&B, it's about things I go through. I usually write R&B songs because I can relate to them, and I want others to be able to relate, too."

Whitfield said her mother has been one of her most important influences, in both music and in living her life. Tamara, a former Soldier, has served as choir director for churches at every one of the family's duty stations.

"It's definitely my mom who has inspired me," she said. "She's a very good singer, and always honest with me about my voice, and that's helped me a lot. My mom is never bringing people down, she's always lifting them up, and that makes me want to be like her because everybody likes her."

As Whitfield continues to grow in her musical abilities, she said she would like to follow her mother's example by serving as a positive role

model for the younger generation, especially her sister, 11-month-old Amelia. For Whitfield, that means staying true to her own standards and not necessarily conforming to what's popular.

"You don't have to curse and be vulgar for your music to be good," she said. "I try to keep my music clean and keep to my own style. I don't feel like I need to change."

Those who know Whitfield and have heard her sing don't doubt she'll go far.

"I think she has a pretty good future in music ahead of her," said Staff Sgt. Tamika Jackson, Regimental Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, who has sung in the gospel choir since June.

"There's always room for improvement, but if she continues to sing and have the drive and passion she does today, I think she could really have a successful career in music. She's definitely a valuable member of the choir."





# ACS assists obtaining benefits for Army widow

BY BOB LUCAS

Army Community Service  
Army Emergency Relief Officer

A "feel good" story recently came to light that involved the claim of a widow for benefits that dates back to 1960. Her husband was a major in the Army when he was killed, and all those years, the widow lived her life without the military benefits due to her. The widow was destitute and was in an emergency room at the time her case came to light at ACS. She was in need of a pension, medical and housing benefits, but there was no one there to assist her.

Imagine, all those years and no one came to the aid of this widow ... until now!

Tony Casiano, the Installation Financial Readiness Officer at the Army Community Service, was pinpointed by IMCOM and asked to review the case and see what he could do to assist this widow.

He diligently gathering all the information, coordinated tirelessly with the Veterans Administration and other entities, and within a few short days, he had the

problem solved. Because of his hard work, this lady will receive a pension which will be backdated. This money will allow the widow to live in dignity and once again prosper financially...something she deserved several years ago.

In a world where we are busy with the Army mission, our families, daily routines, and many other stressful events, it is good to know others are taken care of who deserve the services provided at the Army Community Service.

Tony Casiano is one of many within ACS that goes well above and beyond to provide services to our Army. He is available to provide counseling on a variety of financial issues, so take advantage of it and make appointments for your Soldiers, family members, and organization briefings. He is here to help get people back on track through budgeting and many other areas of financial interest.

*Editor's note: Tony Casiano can be reached at 380-9194 or visited at Bldg. 548, Room 6. His e-mail is anthony.casiano@us.army.mil.*



Tony Casiano

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# Army chief of staff visits NTC

Casey's visit to NTC is his last prior to retiring

STORY AND PHOTO BY CAROLINE KEYSER

Warrior Staff Writer

Versatility in training will be the biggest change the National Training Center can expect to see in the future as the Army shifts its deployment training to include hybrid threat scenarios, said Gen. George W. Casey Jr., chief of staff of the Army, during a visit to the NTC Jan. 22. "These training centers are critical to our ability to prepare Soldiers for combat, and at the same time, train them to do operations across the spectrum," Casey said. "(The NTC) has to be versatile enough to have a rotation one day for Afghanistan, and the next day a completely different rotation. That's the biggest shift."

Casey said the main reason for his visit was to see how the NTC is preparing for hybrid threat training, which combines unconventional warfare and counterinsurgency with conventional warfare elements such as tank battles. The NTC will conduct its first hybrid threat rotation in August, marking a departure from its focus on training exclusively for current conditions in Iraq and Afghanistan. The change is a reflection of the types of combat Army leaders believe Soldiers may face in the future.

"What the National Training Center, and all our training centers, will have to do is build the competence and the confidence into our Soldiers and leaders so they can operate anywhere we send them," Casey said.

The chief of staff said the United States' next big threat will likely come from an unexpected source and that Soldiers will continue deploying into dangerous areas for the foreseeable future.



Gen. George W. Casey Jr., chief of staff of the Army, arrives at the National Training Center for a visit, Jan. 22. He is accompanied by Command Sgt. Maj. Nathan Buckner, center, command sergeant major, National Training Center and Fort Irwin, and Brig. Gen. Robert "Abe" Abrams, right, commanding general, National Training Center and Fort Irwin.

Casey's visit to the NTC was his last before he is set to retire this spring. Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates recommended Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, commander of U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, to succeed Casey earlier this month.

In a whirlwind half-day stopover, Casey visited a combat outpost and received briefings on training trends from NTC combat trainers and Brig. Gen. Robert "Abe" Abrams, commanding general of the NTC and Fort Irwin. Casey also toured the rotational training unit's tactical operations center and talked with Soldiers.

"It's not often the chief of staff comes out to see us, and it's been a great opportunity for us," said Col. Richard Kim, commander of 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division. The 3rd Brigade is January's main rotational training unit (RTU).

Reflecting on changes he's seen in the Army during his four years as chief of staff, Casey said the Army is now in a much better position to meet its needs while sustaining an all-volunteer force. Since 2007, the Army has increased its size by nearly 100,000 Soldiers while drastically reducing its forces in Iraq, allowing dwell time to gradually increase. By October, Soldiers returning from deployments can expect to be home for two years before deploying again, Casey said.

"The way I talk to people about it is, 'You know, we're actually starting to breathe again,'" he said.

Casey said the Army has made great strides since 2007 in breaking down the stigma associated with seeking help for mental health issues, pointing to new programs such as resilience training and the Comprehensive Soldier Fitness Program, which focuses on prevention and developing the individual as a whole. But the Army still has work to do when it comes to eliminating the stigma entirely, he said.

"We've brought the numbers down from about 90 percent of the Army that wouldn't seek help to about 50 percent," Casey said. "But the problem is that's 500,000 people. Giving Soldiers skills so they don't have those challenges to begin with — I think that's our best bet."

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The screenshot shows the website for The National Training Center and Fort Irwin News. The header includes the site name and a navigation bar. The main content area features a welcome message, a list of news items, and several advertisements. A sidebar on the right contains local news and a 'Happy New Year' message. The website is designed to provide local news and features for the Fort Irwin National Training Center.



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## Watching for threats



CAROLINE KEYSER

A gunner from the 570th Engineer Company, 14th Engineer Battalion, watches for threats during an urban mounted patrol situational training exercise at the National Training Center's Ertebat Shar village, Jan. 18.

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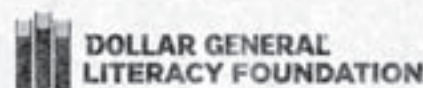


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Sgt. Fuzzbuddy's offers ...

# Safe, clean, fun services for pets

**STORY AND PHOTOS BY CAROLINE KEYSER**  
Warrior Staff Writer

There's a place on Fort Irwin where pets get left in the dog house — and they enjoy it.

Sgt. Fuzzbuddy's Dog House is the National Training Center and Fort Irwin's one-stop shop for overnight pet boarding, doggie day care, grooming, and dog and cat supplies.

"We've had a lot of people come in and say their dogs have never pulled to get into a kennel before," said Bill Cook, owner of Sgt. Fuzzbuddy's. "The dogs know what's here and they enjoy it. When their tails are wagging, you can tell."

What the dogs and cats get at Sgt. Fuzzbuddy's is a clean, spacious environment and a staff dedicated to caring for animals, Cook said. Sgt. Fuzzbuddy's has been open for business since February, 2010, when it took over the former Paws n' Claws Kennel.

Since then, Cook has added many improvements to the facility. The cat room got an upgrade from individual metal kennels to interconnected plastic and wood enclosures which Cook and his staff call "the cat condos." The outdoor dog runs received new shade coverings, complete with water misters to keep dogs cool during hot desert summers.

But perhaps the most noticeable change has been the addition of the red dog house around the front entrance to Sgt. Fuzzbuddy's, which was aimed at drawing in more business and letting the community know the facility existed.

"When we took over, no one even knew what the building was," Cook said.

Now, business is booming more than ever. Erin O'Fihelly-Sims, who has worked at the kennel for four years, said she couldn't remember it ever being so busy before. She credits the new entry décor and promotional banners on



**Chief Warrant Officer 2 Mary Rone, U.S. Army Air Ambulance Detachment, gives a treat from the doggie bakery to Charlie, her Labrador-hound mix, while picking him up from doggie day camp at Sgt. Fuzzbuddy's.**



**Ann Bush, a resident of Fort Irwin, chats with Bill Cook, owner of Sgt. Fuzzbuddy's, while picking out treats for her dog at Sgt. Fuzzbuddy's doggie bakery.**

the fences surrounding Sgt. Fuzzbuddy's with the increase in business.

Cook has also added new services to the kennel. Grooming for dogs and cats is now available on Tuesday and Wednesday. Instructional DVDs on training and working with dogs can be rented for \$1, and "pack leader training" for dog owners is offered periodically. The pet "supply depot" in the front entry area carries chew toys and treats, and collars and leashes are available in the ACU camouflage pattern. The doggie bakery offers a variety of canine-friendly treats including pretzels, doughnuts and "collie-e-clairs" that look so

delicious people sometimes ask if they can eat them, Cook said. Birthday cakes for dogs can be specially ordered and are made on post.

Ann Bush, a resident of Fort Irwin, dropped off her black Labrador retriever, Turk, to be groomed at Sgt. Fuzzbuddy's for the first time in December and purchased some treats from the doggie bakery.

"Everyone has been very nice and friendly," Bush said. "I'm definitely satisfied with it so far."

Providing great service to the Fort Irwin community is a top priority at Sgt. Fuzzbuddy's, and that means keeping its four-legged guests safe and healthy, Cook said. All the dog runs and kennel areas are disinfected several times each day. As a result, no illnesses or health problems have been reported at Sgt. Fuzzbuddy's — an accomplishment for a facility that can house up to 13 cats and 75 dogs on busy days.

Staff members said they are dedicated to going the extra mile for the animals at Sgt. Fuzzbuddy's. Each cat and dog has a chart on its kennel where staff track the animal's eating habits, medication, and overall health each day.

Sgt. Fuzzbuddy's is also quick to accommodate pets' special needs. One dog, a repeat visitor, has difficulty walking and can't go outside. O'Fihelly-Sims and her colleagues make sure it has access to food, water, and a clean living area.

"We love all our dogs here," O'Fihelly-Sims said. "We do whatever we have to do to take care of everyone."

Cook said his staff has been the biggest factor in making Sgt. Fuzzbuddy's an excellent facility.

"They are the reason for our success," he said. "I'm confident in everyone that works here, and I think the people coming here know we honestly care about their pets like they're our own."

"My wife and I are huge supporters of the military, and we're happy to give back to them as much as we can, because we know the sacrifices they make. We try to keep the prices low and offer them as much as we can so they're happy and their lives are easier."

*Editor's note: Sgt. Fuzzbuddy's is located in Building 978 on Inner Loop Road. For more information, call 380-7387 or visit [www.sgtfuzzbuddy.com](http://www.sgtfuzzbuddy.com).*



**Sgt. Fuzzbuddy's employees Ashley Justice, left, and Erin O'Fihelly-Sims clean a dog's cage while a dryer machine helps dry off a dog that recently had a bath.**



**The cat room at Sgt. Fuzzbuddy's, nicknamed "Cpl. Purrrfurr's Feline Suites," has space for up to 13 cats in its interconnecting kennels.**

For more information go to [www.irwin.army.mil](http://www.irwin.army.mil)



# HIGH DESERT WARRIOR CLASSIFIED AD POLICIES AND FORM

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The ONLY personnel eligible to place free ads in the High Desert Warrior are:

• **Active Duty Military and DoD personnel Stationed at Fort Irwin NTC and their dependents, and retired military.**

The ONLY Classified ads that are available as free ads to above listed personnel are:

- Pets - Free To Good Home
- Roommate Wanted
- Lost & Found
- Cars & Trucks (Except RV's)
- Furniture & Appliances
- Misc. For Sale
- Garage & Yard Sales
- Motorcycles
- Misc. Wanted

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| <input type="checkbox"/> INVESTMENTS            | <input type="checkbox"/> EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES | <input type="checkbox"/> PETS                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> RECREATION VEHICLES    | <input type="checkbox"/> CARS & TRUCKS            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MOTORCYCLES            | <input type="checkbox"/> FURNITURE & APPLIANCES   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> WORK WANTED            | <input type="checkbox"/> MISC. WANTED             |
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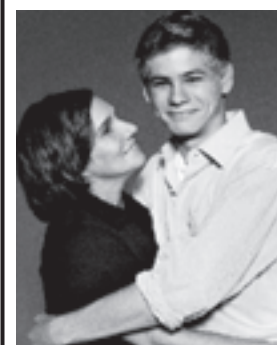
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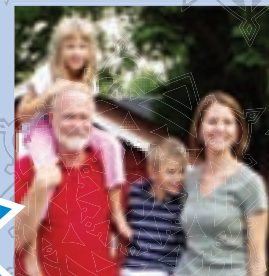
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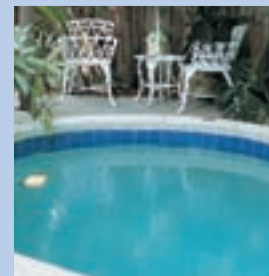
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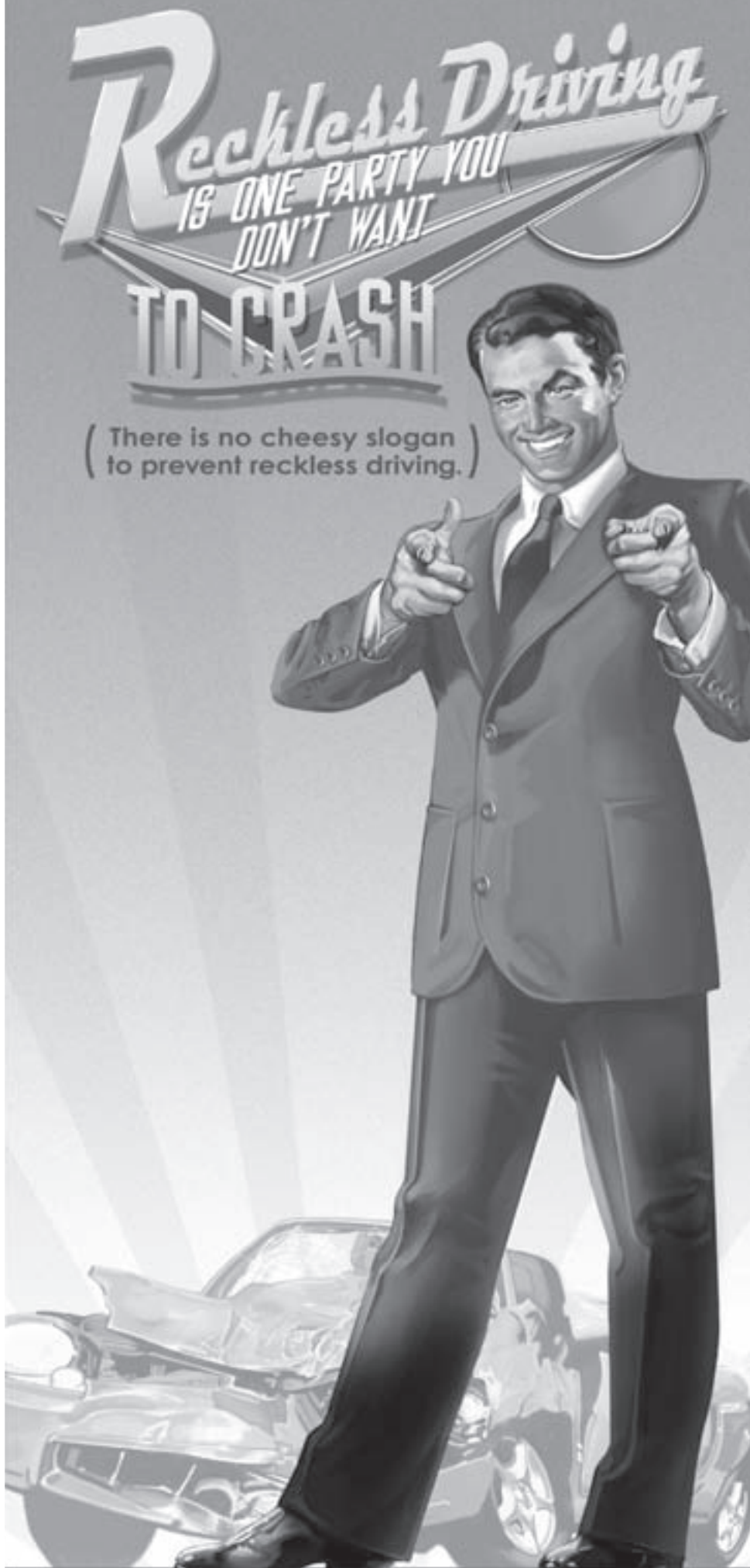
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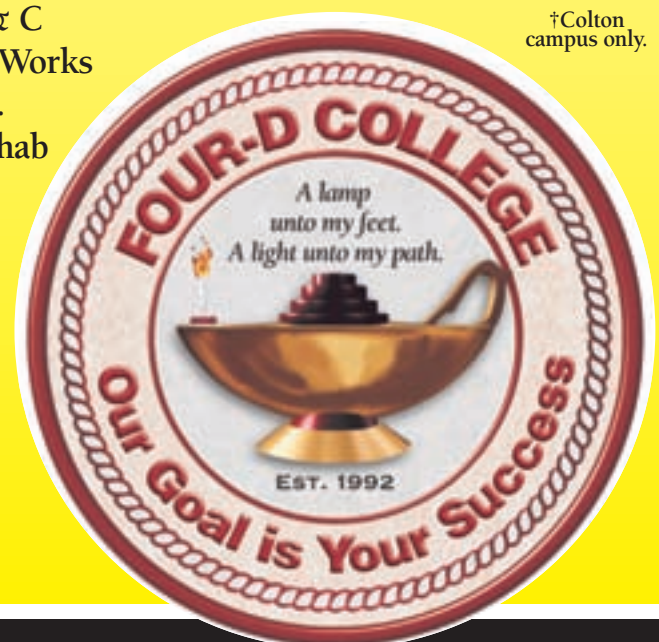
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